San Francisco School of
NEEDLEWORK & DESIGN

Introduction to Embroidery
Building

San Francisco School of Needlework and Design
360 Post Street, Suite 604
San Francisco, CA 94108
www.sfsnad.org/info@sfsnad.org
415-604-1104

Royal School of
needlework
Stitch Bank

San Francisco School of
NEEDLEWORK & DESIGN

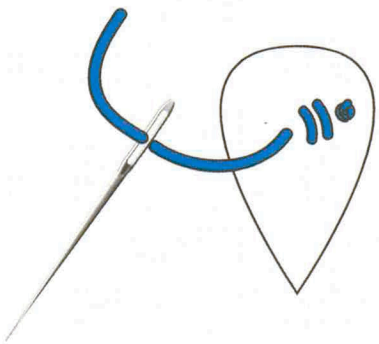
Starting and Finishing a Thread

Thread Length

Cut a length of thread no longer than 12 inches. This will help to ensure the thread is kept in good condition and prevent it from becoming fluffy. If the thread is too thin in places (as sometimes happens with spun wool) discard the length and cut another.

Holding Stitch/Casting On - Finishing Stitch/Casting Off

Cast on: Tie a knot at the end of the thread and enter the fabric from the top in an area of the design that will be stitched over later. Near the knot, stitch two small stitches, these will hold the thread in place. The knot can now be cut off. The thread is now secure to begin stitching.

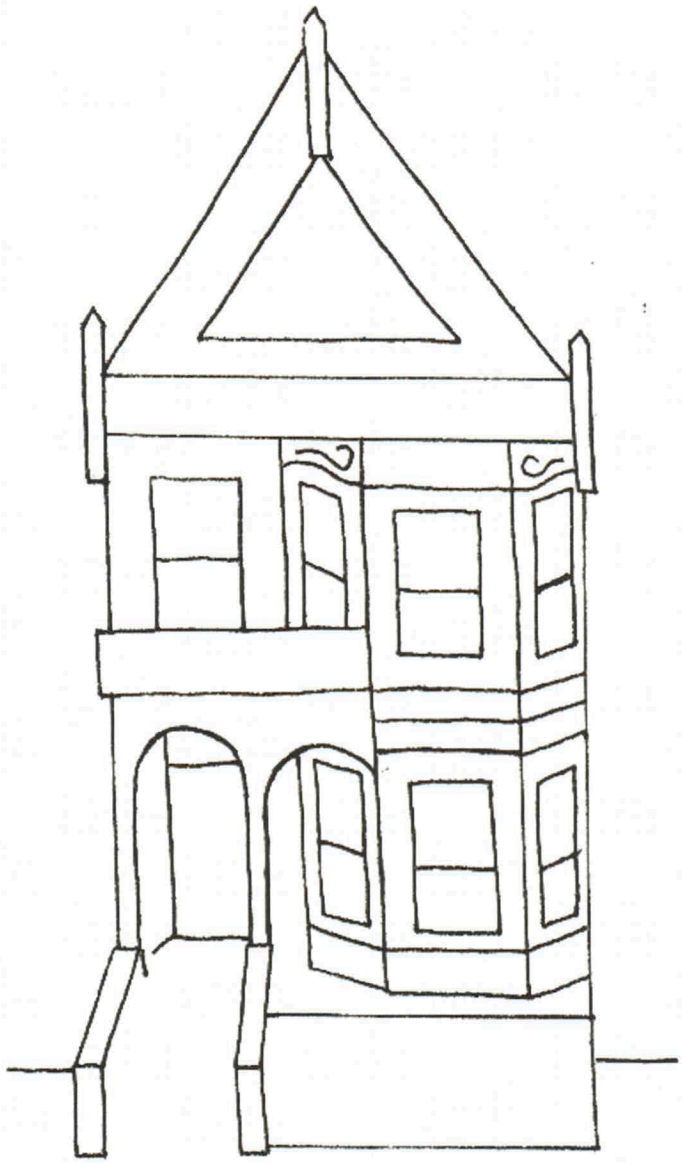


When you are ready to finish a thread, the same principle applies (two small stitches in an area that will be worked over). Cut off the tail from the top of the design. If you come to the end of the design without an area to work two unseen small stitches, then take the thread to the back of the fabric and weave through some existing stitches to secure, then cut off the end.

By using this method of starting and finishing, you keep the back of your fabric free from knots and bumps. This will help keep the embroidery flat when you come to mount it.

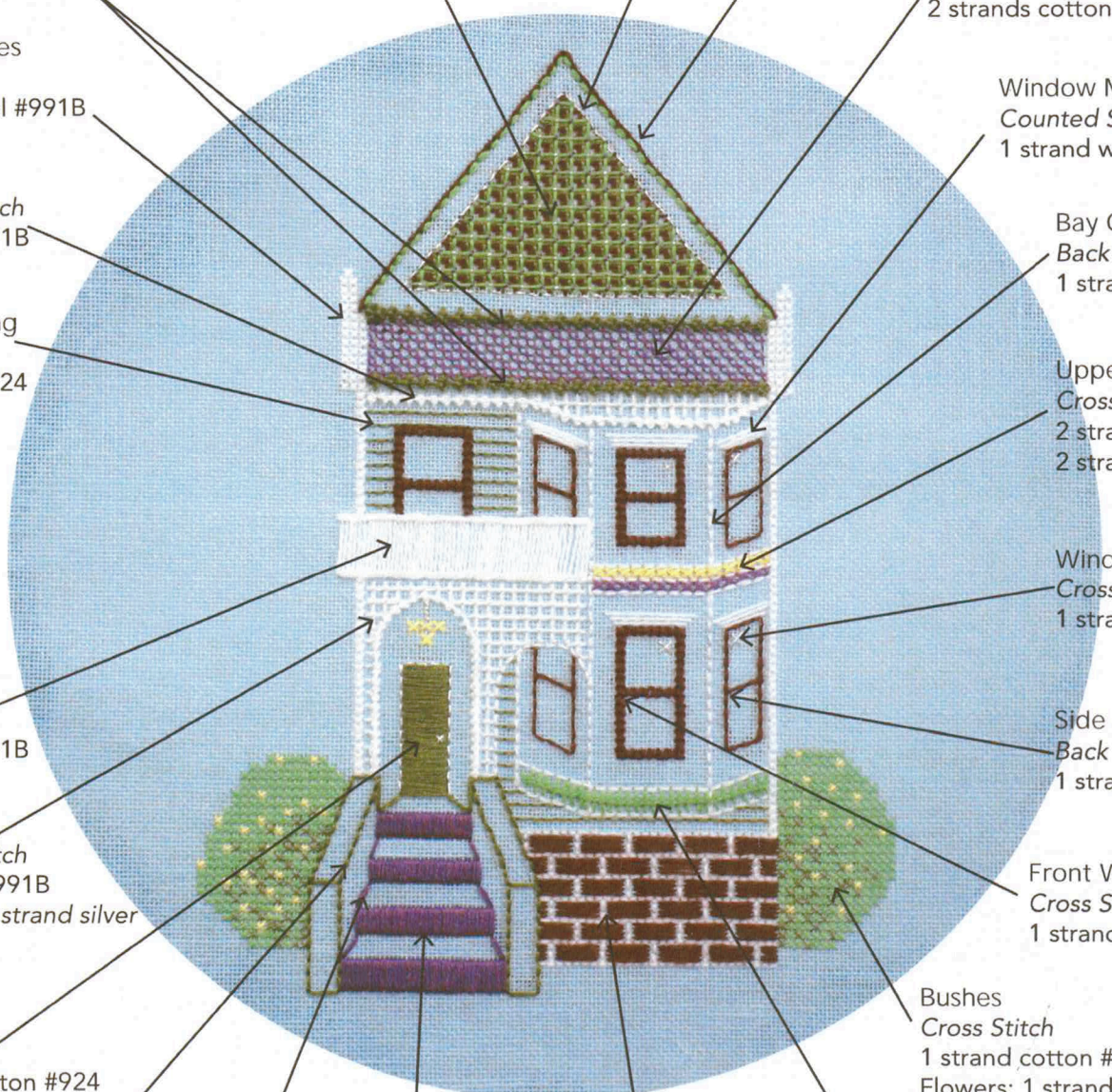
San Francisco School of Needlework and Design
360 Post Street, Suite 604
San Francisco, CA 94108
www.sfsnad.org/info@sfsnad.org
415-604-1104

San Francisco School of
NEEDLEWORK & DESIGN



San Francisco School of Needlework and Design
360 Post Street, Suite 604
San Francisco, CA 94108
www.sfsnad.org/info@sfsnad.org
415-604-1104

Stitch Diagram



Inner Roof Outline
Back Stitch
1 strand silver

Roof Filling
Battlement Couching
Layer 1: 1 strand wool #127
Layer 2: 2 strands cotton #924
Layer 3: 2 strands cotton #256
Couched with alternating rows:
1 strand silver
2 strands cotton #111

Outer Roof Outline
Back Stitch; two rows
Inner row: 4 strands cotton #256
Outer row: 1 strand wool #127

Frieze Surround
Knotted Pearl Stitch
6 strands cotton #924

Roofline Frieze
Diagonal Cross Filling
2 strands cotton #111

Outside Eaves
Cross Stitch
1 strand wool #991B

Window Molding
Counted Satin
1 strand wool #991B

Gingerbread
Knotted Pearl Stitch
1 strand wool #991B

Bay Outline
Back Stitch
1 strand wool #

Second Floor Siding
Back Stitch
2 strands cotton #924

Upper Bay Mol
Cross Stitch
2 strands silk
2 strands cottor

Window Highli
Cross Stitch
1 strand silver

Balcony
Ladder Stitch
1 strand wool #991B

Side Window C
Back Stitch
1 strand wool #

Entry Lattice
Simple Trellis Stitch
1 stramd wpp; #991B
Couched with: 1 strand silver

Front Window Ou
Cross Stitch
1 strand wool #12

Door Filling
Satin Stitch
4 strands cotton #924

Bushes
Cross Stitch
1 strand cotton #2256; #92
Flowers: 1 strand silk

Stairway Rails
Back Stitch
4 strands cotton #924

Stair Risers
Counted Satin
4 strands cotton #111

Lower Bay Molding
Van Dyke Stitch
3 strands cotton #256

Brickwork
Counted Satin
Bricks: 1 strand wool #127
Grout: 1 strand wool #991B

Stairway Outline
Straight Stitch
4 strands cotton #924

Cotton threads: Anchor
Wool threads: Appleton

©2019 San Francisco School of Needlework and Design

Back Stitch

used for outlines

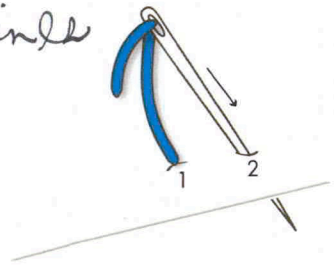


Fig. 1

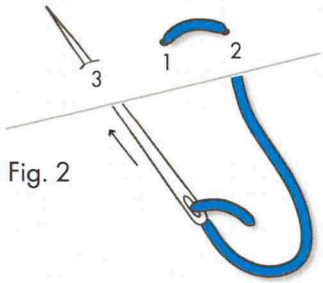


Fig. 2

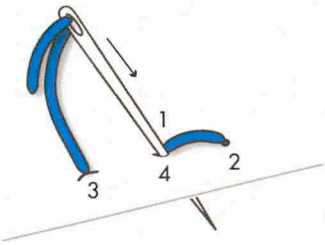


Fig. 3

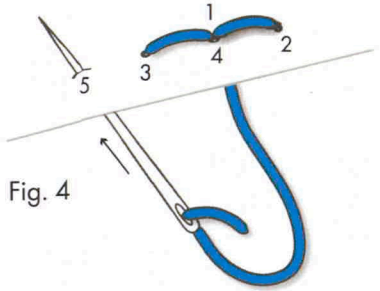


Fig. 4

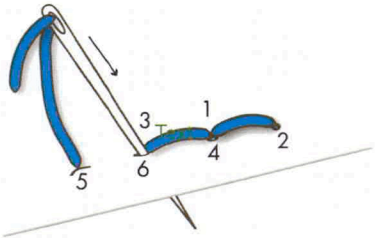


Fig. 5

Finished stitch

Whipped Back Stitch

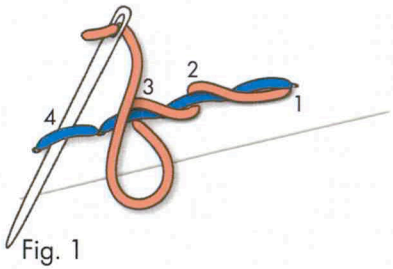
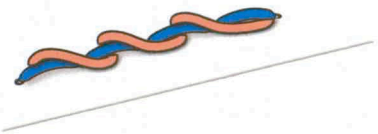


Fig. 1



Finished stitch

(c)2019SFSNAD

Battlement Couching

Fig. 1

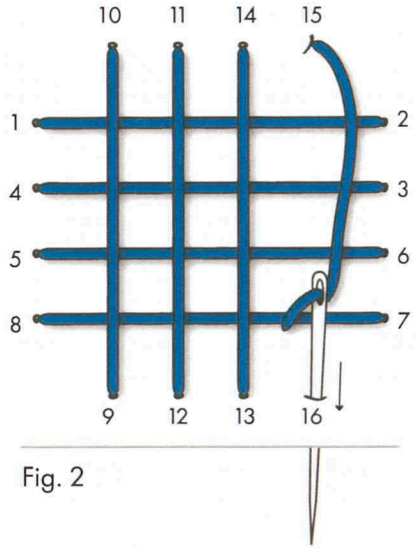


Fig. 2

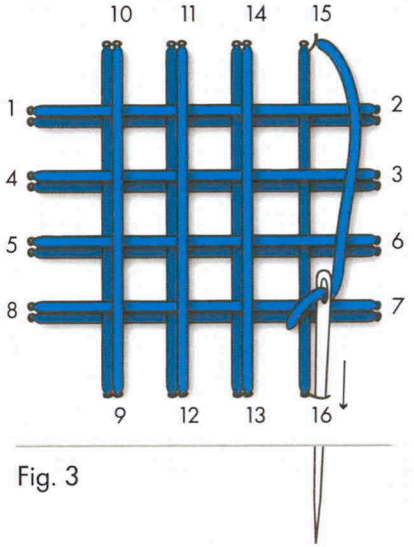


Fig. 3

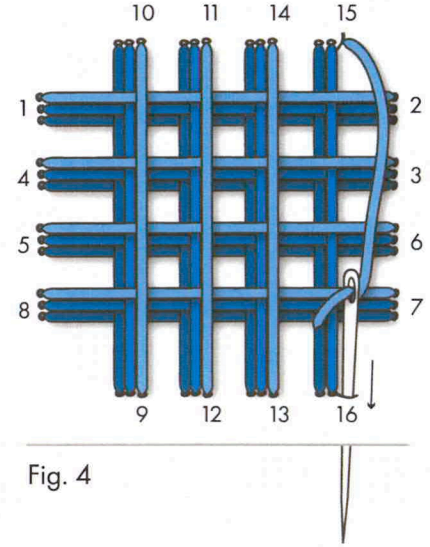


Fig. 4

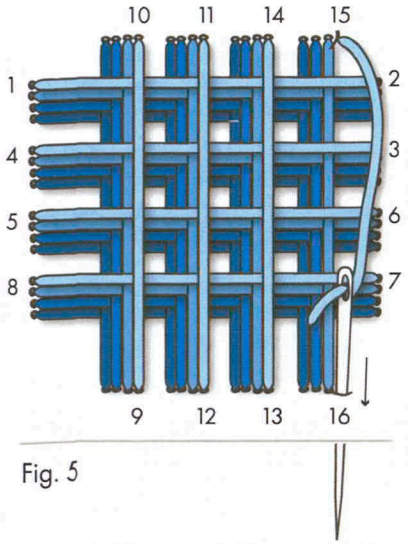


Fig. 5

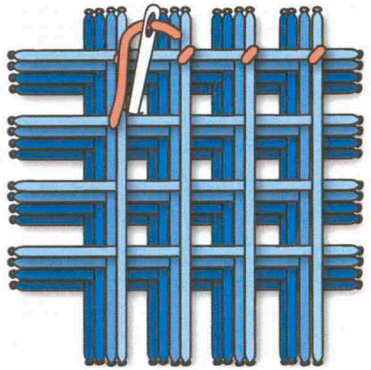
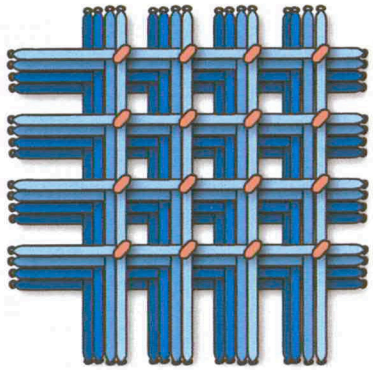


Fig. 6



Finished stitch

(c)2019SFSNAD

Counted Satin

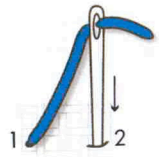


Fig. 1

Fig. 2

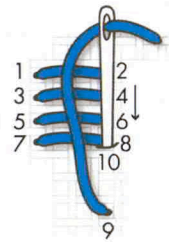


Fig. 3

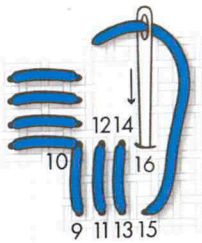


Fig. 4

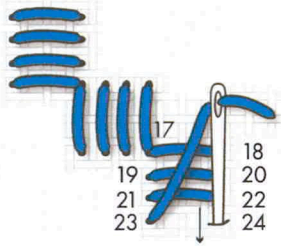
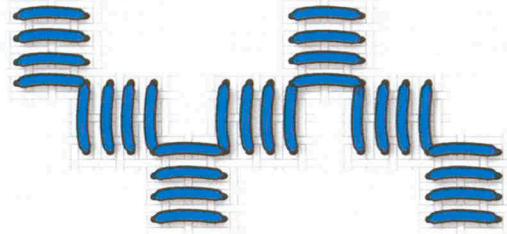


Fig. 5



Finished stitch

(c)2019SFSNAD

Cross Stitch

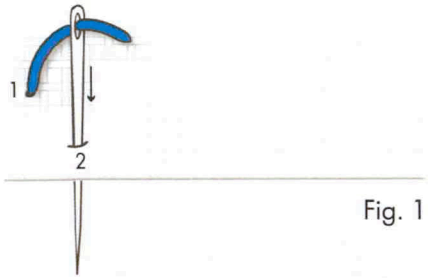


Fig. 1

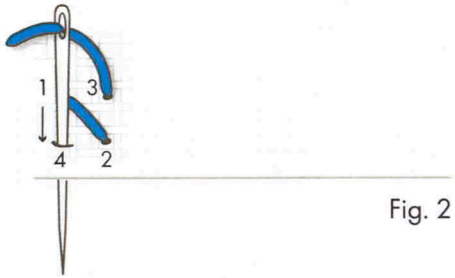


Fig. 2

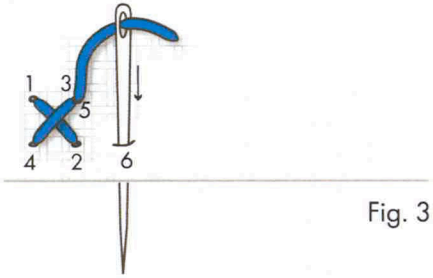


Fig. 3

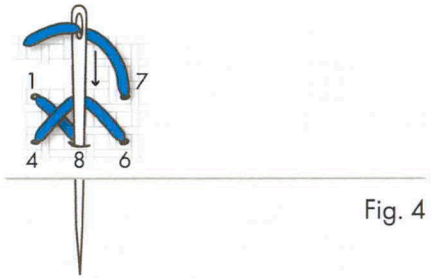
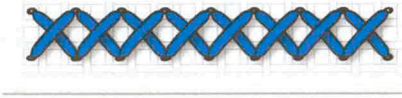


Fig. 4



Finished stitch

(c)2019SFSNAD

Diagonal Cross Filling

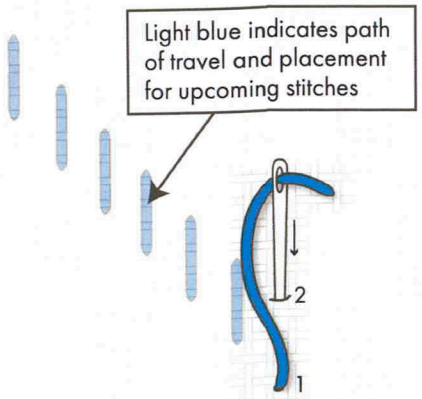


Fig. 1

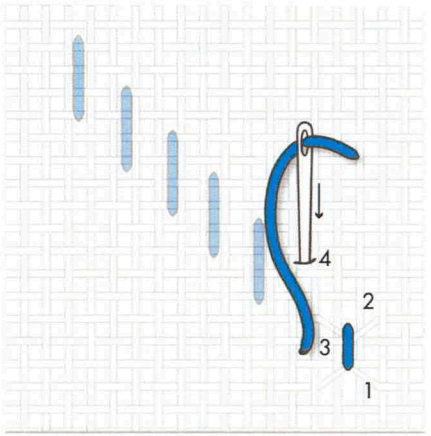


Fig. 2

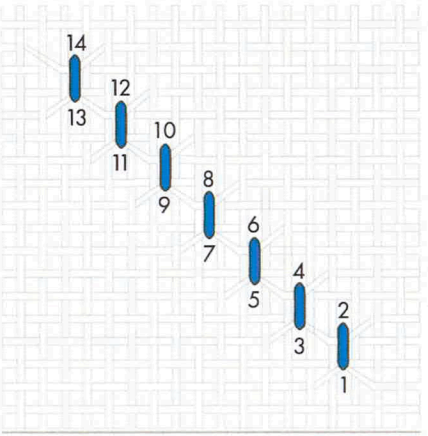


Fig. 3

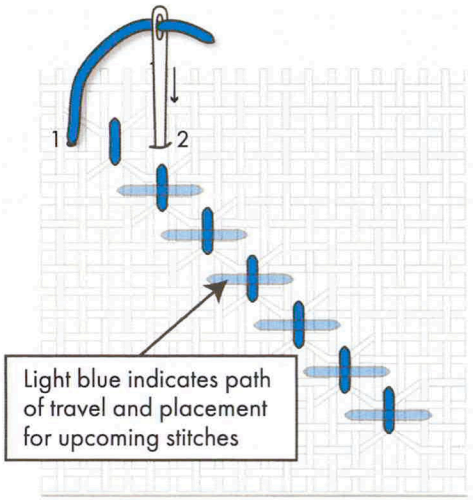


Fig. 4

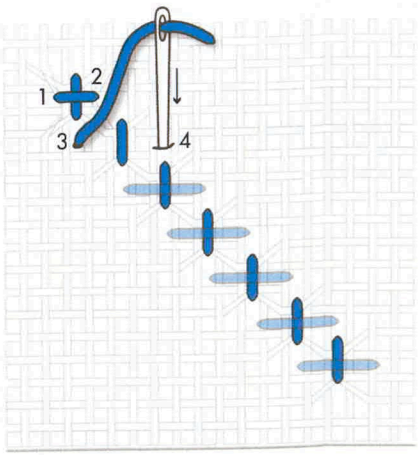


Fig. 5

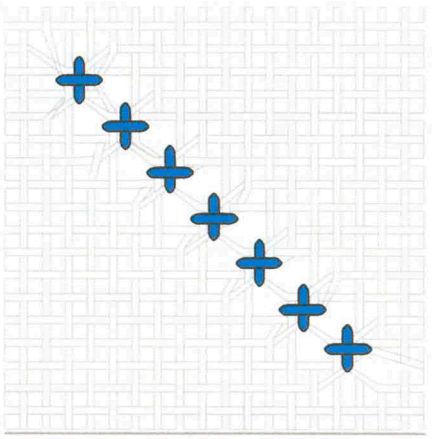


Fig. 6

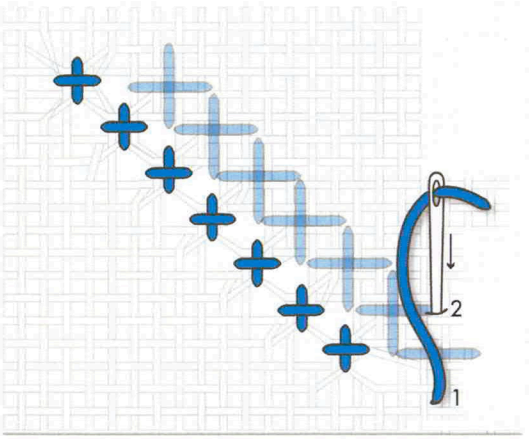
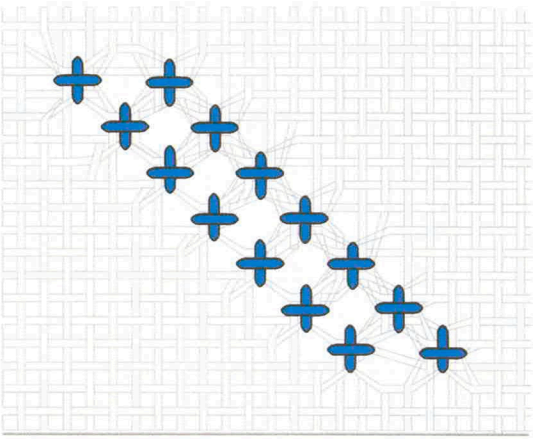


Fig. 7



Finished stitch

(c)2019SFSNAD

Knotted Pearl Stitch

outline or fill

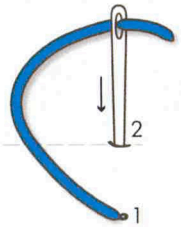


Fig. 1

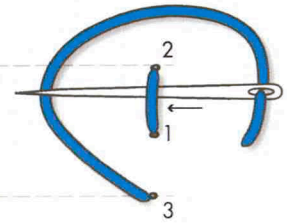


Fig. 2

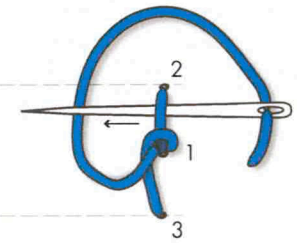


Fig. 3

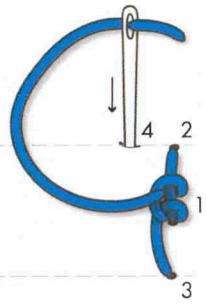


Fig. 4

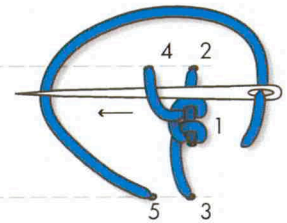


Fig. 5

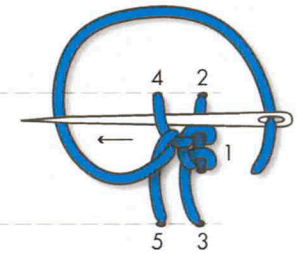


Fig. 6

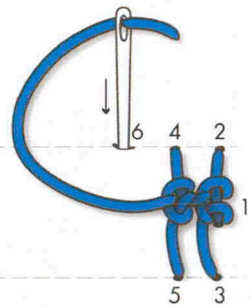


Fig. 7

Finished stitch

(c)2019SFSNAD

Ladder Stitch

used to fill a space

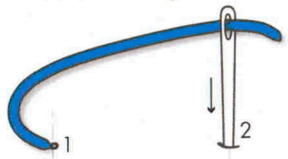


Fig. 1

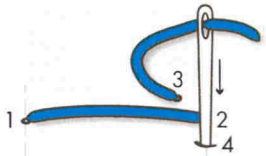


Fig. 2

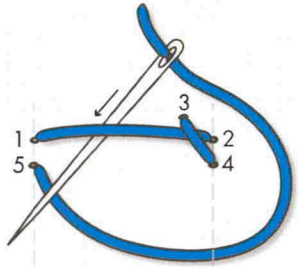


Fig. 3

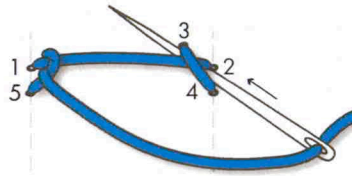


Fig. 4

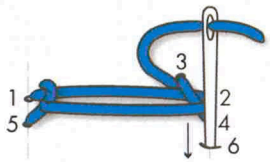


Fig. 5

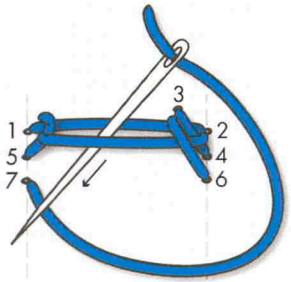


Fig. 6

Finished stitch

(c)2019SFSNAD

Van Dyke Stitch

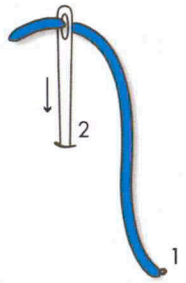


Fig. 1

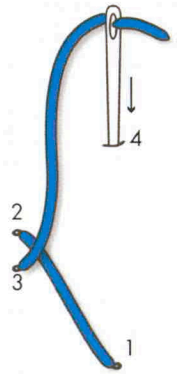


Fig. 2

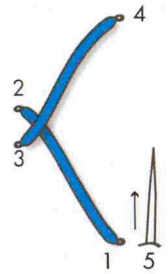


Fig. 3

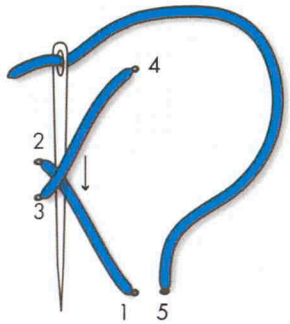


Fig. 4

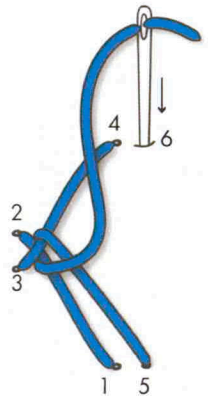
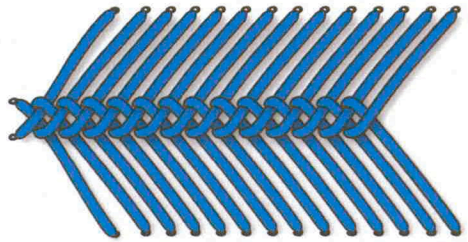


Fig. 5



Finished stitch

(c)2019SFSNAD